



City of Biggs

Agenda Item Staff Report for the Special City Council Meeting: January 31, 2011 6:00PM

DATE: January 28, 2011
TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
FROM: Pete Carr, City Administrator
SUBJECT: City Priorities for 2011 (Study Session Discussion)

City Council and administrator will review progress and accomplishments from 2010, and consider city priorities for 2011.

Background:

Within the overall framework of the City of Biggs General Plan, adjusting for more recently identified issues and opportunities, the city a year ago established a five-year plan outline called "Building a Better Biggs." This 10-point document is posted on the city website and is provided as an attachment to this report for your reference.

The City Project Priorities 2010 document is also provided for review, edited after its initial introduction by staff December 15. This is staff's report card of how the city did in accomplishing prioritized goals set for the city a year ago. Note that additional projects came up during the year, some of which are shown in an inset box.

Draft 4 of City Project Priorities 2011 is provided as a guide for our conversation at this meeting. There are more goals and projects listed than can reasonably be accomplished by limited internal and consultant staffing. Council's direction is sought to identify the top priorities, as well as to eliminate the lowest priorities; some items can and should be deferred to 2012.

The result of this study session should be a document that expresses council's direction to staff as to current priorities, is consistent with "Building a Better Biggs," and is achievable within available resources.

Attachments:

Exhibit 1: Building a Better Biggs
Exhibit 2: City Project Priorities 2010 End of Year Review
Exhibit 3: City Project Priorities 2011, Draft #4

Recommendation and Fiscal Impact: N/A

Building A Better Biggs 2015: 5-Year Plan
as of May 2010

By 2015 Biggs will:

1. Operate on a balanced budget with healthy reserves.
 - A. General Fund maintains emergency reserves = 40% of annual income.
 - B. General Fund covers public safety expenses.
 - C. Electric Fund maintains emergency reserves = 40% of annual income.
 - D. Grant project funds are positive or have identified receivables.
 - E. All other funds operate in the black.
2. Maintain utility rates that are competitive and stable.
 - A. Electric rates reflect stability of capacity resource mix with majority of load requirement covered by LEC (Lodi Energy Center), geo and hydro.
 - B. If needed, augment portfolio by buying REC's (Renewable Energy Credits) or partnering in a renewable energy plant.
 - C. Water and sewer and garbage rates will rise less than 5% per year, except possibly sewer one time in conjunction with the WWTP (Wastewater Treatment Plant) project.
 - D. Storm drain utility will cost no more than \$5 monthly per household, will fund all storm drain maintenance.
3. Position the City for robust but orderly growth.
 - A. General Plan 2030 and pre-zoning in place and guiding decisions.
 - B. Farm Bureau, RD833, County, and Gridley are actively and affirmatively engaged in Biggs' plan. MOU's (Memorandums of Understanding) in place to establish growth opportunities and partnerships.
 - C. Growth preference is for jobs (focus on ag-industrial and commercial), then market housing supported by community facilities districts.
 - D. Explore use of modest incentives for retailers and developers to locate and stay here.
 - E. Waste water treatment plant is scalable and upgraded to tertiary NPDES (State discharge permit).
 - F. Water system is full SCADA (automatic alerting and remote control), ample aquifer volume, always in compliance.
 - G. A tax revenue sharing agreement with the county is in place.

- H. Gateways identify, announce and invite people to Biggs.
 - I. Design standards and construction standards are in place.
4. Begin to prosper economically.
- A. A developer of alternative energy behind the city's meter should be in operation or well into construction.
 - B. The City will have a real econ dev plan and be following it with active community support. The hotel will be open as some sort of business, and other storefronts are being reopened.
 - C. Commercial development is planned and approved for the SR99 interchange gateway, property owner on board.
 - D. If housing market improves, work with developers on potential for market rate housing in Biggs Planning Area.
 - E. If Bayliss Ranch opens as a tourist draw, annex to city to provide services, link to other businesses, regulate and gain tax increment.
 - F. Plans underway for local or regional festival to draw tourism.
5. Be pedestrian friendly and plan bicycle path expansions.
- A. No condition 4 or 5 (moderate, total failure) sidewalk sections.
 - B. Rounded ADA (a.k.a. handicap) ramps.
 - C. Sidewalks connect NBE (North Biggs Estates) to schools. Plans underway for sidewalks to complete the city's neighborhoods.
 - D. Provide connectivity to regional bikeway and path systems.
6. Benefit from attractive and useful public spaces.
- A. Developed neighborhood park on Trent Street.
 - B. Well maintained park facilities and tennis courts.
 - C. Clean restrooms at Family Park and Rio Bonito Park.
 - D. Basic park & rec programs, active and sustainable teen center.
 - E. Attractive and efficient city hall facility.
 - F. Rental community hall – attractive, versatile, functional.
 - G. Healthy city trees line all collector streets – no barren gaps.
 - H. Library will be accessible, inviting, open, supported by community.
7. Preserve and celebrate legacy.
- A. Local history is collected, archived, displayed.
 - B. City support for Hometown effort ensures it is perpetual and sustainable.
 - C. Visual reminders of the city's heritage and character (monuments, banners, flower pots, benches, etc) are prominent.

8. Public safety is well delivered and appreciated.
 - A. Community Service Officers are visible, active, effective.
 - B. Marijuana is not cultivated outdoors in City limits.
 - C. Gang signs, if any, continue to be eradicated with a few hours of appearance.
 - D. If determined feasible, plans are underway to integrate police and fire as one efficient and versatile public safety department.
 - E. Blight is minimal and actively pursued by code enforcement.
9. Infrastructure continues strong and constantly improving.
 - A. 55 PSI consistent water pressure with no hammering, no outages.
 - B. 100% of customers served by metered water.
 - C. All Orangeburg sewer collection pipe replaced.
 - D. Neighborhood lift stations will have subtle, pedestal controls, interchangeable parts with bench stock, and be readily adaptable to emergency generators.
 - E. Streets are smoothly paved, well maintained.
 - F. Gutter valleys are repaired and in good condition.
10. Increase public participation in the decision making process; utilize technology and personal outreach to educate and engage citizens.

End of Year Review

CITY PROJECT PRIORITIES 2010 City of Biggs

- ✓ = Done!
- = Progress
- X = Not

Priorities	More Important	Less Important
More Urgent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Complete sewer repairs ✓ Complete cost reduction for police services X Obtain funding for WWTP (wastewater treatment plant) ○ Complete Sixth Street Bridge replacement ✓ Determine in/out of LEC ✓ Review water, electric rates ✓ Analyze indust rate structure ✓ Report obligated vs unobligated fund balances ✓ Install 10-000 gallon hydro-pneumatic water tank 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Project plans for Memorial Hall; get funded and start if possible ✓ Carry out sidewalk repair plan ✓ Labor Union MOU ✓ Consider level payment option for utility customers ✓ Re-start General Plan Update <div> Additional: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Flood Plain Issues ✓ Labor & overhead allocations ✓ Crosswalks added, others upgraded ✓ YMCA connection started ✓ Opened dialogue with Gridley: trails, transit... ✓ Solid Waste contract </div>
Less Urgent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Design standards, Construction standards ○ Emerg power for lift stations ✓ Downtown Econ Development Plan with citizen participation X Fix tennis courts ○ Emergency prep plan w/more details and maps ✓ Salary progression system/personnel policies ✓ Library ADA design project ○ Explore other non-eng'g grants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ General Plan maintenance fee X Public works policy & proc manual ✓ Disposition on city-owned house and Seventh St site X GIS map for all utilities ○ City Code updates X Teen Center operations MOU ○ School zone safety measures X Concept plan for jail facility ○ Explore opportunities for industrials outside city limits

CITY PROJECT PRIORITIES 2011
City of Biggs

Draft #4 Jan 28, 2011

Priorities	More Important	Less Important
More Urgent	<p>Extend police services contract</p> <p>Identify lower cost medical insurance</p> <p>Adjust water rates</p> <p>NCPA Alternatives Analysis</p> <p>Obtain financing for WWTP Upgrade (wastewater treatment plant)</p> <p>Complete CalTrans approval: Sixth Street Bridge replacement</p> <p>Sewer fund and rate analysis</p>	<p>Transform downtown appearance with citizen participation</p> <p>Get teen center occupied and running</p> <p>Complete Personnel Manual, implement new pay system and safety program</p> <p>Implement credit card options for utility customers</p> <p>Report obligated vs unobligated fund balances quarterly</p>
Less Urgent	<p>Complete sidewalk repair project</p> <p>Replace damaged gutter valleys</p> <p>Utility charges for all properties</p> <p>Establish plan for alternative energy site here.</p> <p>RFQ City Engineering; also IT, planning, city attorney (?).</p> <p>Complete GP Update policy doc, start environmentals</p> <p>Provide emergency power for remaining lift stations</p> <p>Seek grants for storm drains, sidewalks, paving, Library ADA</p> <p>Get funding for Biggs community Hall, plan project.</p> <p>Fix tennis courts, engage YMCA for recreation programs</p>	<p>Complete nuisance code changes, implement effectively</p> <p>Plan and implement school zone safety measures</p> <p>Establish plan for Trent St Playground</p> <p>GIS map for all utilities</p> <p>Get to 50% complete on Public Works policy & procedure manual; 100% complete on emergency ops</p> <p>Review/revise construction standards(?)</p> <p>Concept plan for jail facility</p> <p>"Golden Rose" Award (?)</p> <p>Plan for rail trail to Gridley (?)</p> <p>Truck Routes (?)</p> <p>Fence Code/ROW modifications/Alt's (?)</p>